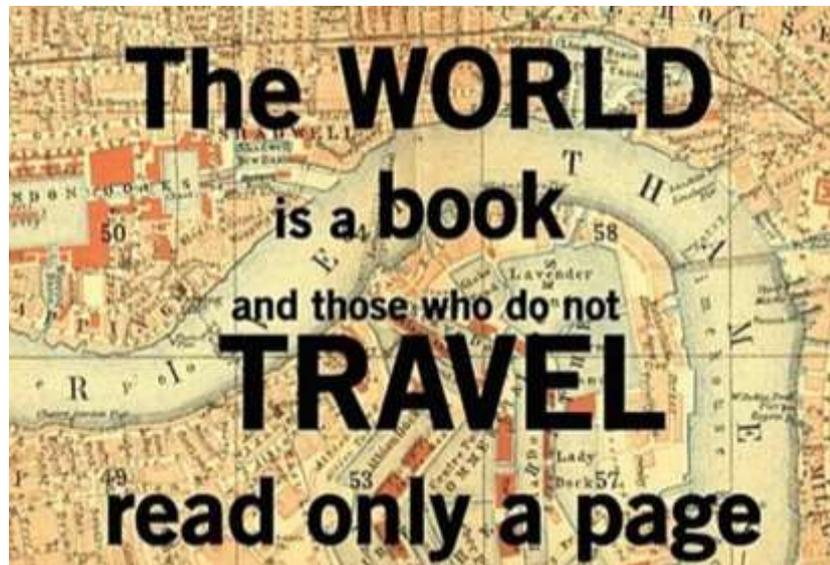




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English

Travelling towards each other

von Marianne Schneidhofer



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Kurzinfo: Travelling towards each other changes your life and opens your mind!



Text 1: Travelling towards each other

Erasmus+ offers pupils, students and trainees a unique opportunity to obtain education, training, development and work experience in another European country and beyond, both inside and outside the classroom. It will help them to gain the valuable life-skills and international experience they need to succeed in today's world.

Youth exchanges bring together groups of young people from two or more countries, providing them with an opportunity to discuss and confront various themes while learning about each others' countries and cultures; they help you learn new skills and improve your CV.

Groups of young people can exchange with other young people from one or more EU country lasting five to 21 days. Young people from different countries meet and live together to carry out a work programme designed and prepared by them before the exchange. This could be a mix of workshops, exercises, debates, role-plays, simulations and outdoor activities. They allow young people to develop competences; discover new cultures, habits and life-styles through peer-learning; and strengthen values like solidarity, democracy and friendship.

If you are aged 13-30 you can also apply for funding. This involves meetings between young people and decision-makers in the field of youth work to promote the active participation of young people in democratic life.

Your activity could take place in any of the other 32 Programme Countries or in any of the Partner Countries neighbouring the EU.

Exercises you have to do:

- 1 Read the text twice!**
- 2 Underline or highlight the words you don't know and look them up in your dictionary!**

**3 Answer the questions!**

- 3.1** Which programme offers students the unique experience to study abroad?
- 3.2** What will you gain from your experience?
- 3.3** What are exchanges?
- 3.4** Where can you go?
- 3.5** How old do you have to be to get funding?
- 3.6** Do you know five European countries?
- 3.7** What's a CV?
- 3.8** What can be strengthened by taking part in a project?

Text 2: "A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step."*Lao Tzu*

These new friends continue to visit periodically when they travel to each other's towns, always exchanging news and information.

Read three reports of lucky students who took part in one of these projects:

1 It was our last day in Italy. We had to say goodbye to all our new friends, which was very sad. We went back to the airport and flew to Vienna. The only good thing was that we could see our family and friends again.

I hope I can take part in the Comenius¹ project next year too, so I can meet all my new friends again. It was nice meeting all the people and a great journey. It was one of the best weeks in my life.

2 We were really sad that that was our last day in Spain. All of us were really depressed and sad when we had to say goodbye. I think it was an amazing trip and I was really lucky to go there. I never thought that the people from the Comenius project were so incredible. The ones who are allowed to go to Belgium at the end of March are really lucky and they are going to have a lot of fun.

¹ Comenius is now Erasmus+

3 The real highlight of the meeting was skiing at the Colere ski resort, about 90 minutes drive north of Palazzolo. After an adventurous trip up the kind of skilift that hasn't been seen in Austria for quite a few years we arrived at our destination in the afternoon. Getting everyone kitted out with ski boots and skis proved to be a pretty complicated undertaking and by the time everyone had their stuff there was very little left in the storeroom. Just after dark it began to snow and the following day saw us skiing on completely empty slopes in bright sunshine, without a cloud in the sky. Due to the fact that the Italian holidays had not yet started and the resort is a bit out of the way, we really were the only people there. It was perfect. (Though a little bit of wax on my skis wouldn't have done any harm. I think they'd put glue on them by mistake.) There were lessons with Italian skiing instructors for the various ability levels. The Spanish pupils (and some of their teachers) had never before seen snow ...



This proved to be a fantastic way for the pupils to get to know each other and forge friendships, which is, when all is said and done, the main aim of these Comenius projects - to give pupils the chance to get to know new people and cultures and to broaden their horizons.

Exercises you have to do:

4 Read the text carefully.

5 Which sayings go best with each paragraph?

6 Write your own text about a journey.

6.1 "To travel is to discover that everyone is wrong about other countries."

Aldous Huxley

6.2 "One's destination is never a place, but a new way of seeing things."

Henry Miller

6.3 "Read. Travel. Read. Ask. Read. Learn. Read. Connect. Read." - *Dr. Seuss*

6.4 "Friends are always friends no matter how far you have to travel back in time.

If you have memories together, there is always a piece of your friendship inside your heart."



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Zielgruppe:

3. - 4. NMS, PTS

Material:

Text, Arbeitsblatt

Zum Weiterarbeiten:

Similar texts and worksheets can be found here:

http://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/sites/teens/files/my_city_-_exercises_4.pdf

Quellen:

<https://www.erasmusplus.org.uk/key-resources#brochure>

http://www.searchquotes.com/search/Friendship_Travel/

Solutions:

Text 1:

- 3.1** Erasmus Programme
- 3.2** You will gain valuable life-skills and international experience.
- 3.3** Youth exchanges bring together groups of young people from two or more countries.
- 3.4** Your activity could take place in any of the other 32 Programme Countries or in any of the Partner Countries neighbouring the EU.
- 3.5** You have to be thirteen to thirty years old to apply for funding.
- 3.6** e.g. Spain, Italy, Germany, Great Britain, France
- 3.7** A CV is a curriculum vitae (Lebenslauf).
- 3.8** You can strengthen values (Werte) like solidarity, democracy and friendship.

Text 2:

1-6.1

2-6.4

3-6.2